

## AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 2-4 entirely without prejudice or disclaimer, please amend claims 5-6 and 9 to read as follows.

## AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of the ion exchanger of SEQ ID NO: 1.

2. - 4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) A recombinant expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 3 1.

6. (currently amended) A recombinant expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 4 2.

7. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the recombinant expression vector of claim 5.

8. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the recombinant expression vector of claim 6.

9. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An isolated nucleic acid molecule ~~of claim 4 wherein said nucleic acid comprising the sequence is that~~ of SEQ ID NO:3.